

Approved For Release 2005/06/09 : CIA-RDP85B00803R000100160080-9

A-12 Q Drone Proposal (Initial approval)

5 October 1962

25X1

DD/R Report of Meeting on NRO with McNamara, McCone, Gilpatric and Charyk

...(b) Discussion was held on the FIRE FLY and A-12 Q drone programs. It was agreed that FIRE FLY shld go ahead for possible use in Cuba. At this point there was considerable discussion on the need to have a more forceful recon program in the Cuban area. The value of the A-12 Q as a potential hedge against the inability to get permission for the manned vehicle was discussed. It was admitted that the technical characteristics and feasibility of this system were still uncertain and that the first phase of the program could probably be useful in clearing up some of these uncertainties, before the very large sums of money would be committed. It was therefore agreed to proceed with this program with the understanding that when the data from the study phase was available, then a further decision would be made on the final development. (Subsequent to the meeting Dr. Charyk agreed that CIA should undertake the development responsibilities for this program in the same way as for the A-12.)

66-R-638 Chron-2

memo to

Approved For Release 2005/06/09 : CIA-RDP85B00803R000100160080-9

8 October 1962

25X1

DDR/OSA (Development Division)

SecDef and DCI at meeting on NRO program agreed to proceed with initial stages of the development of the A-12Q program. In view of technical uncertainties of the system, the program should be carefully reviewed after Phase I, i.e., the study and feasibility phase, is complete. It is understood that this phase will cost approx. [redacted] 25X1
If this review indicates that one should not proceed with the development, then one could save the [redacted] which the program would cost.

2. Subsequent to this meeting Dr. Charyk agreed that the management responsibility for this development should be in CIA (Program B) in much the same way as the present A-12. He agreed that the Defense Dept should assign some individual to CIA who is knowledgeable on drones and hopefully "enthusiastic" for the A-12 Q program. You should, therefore, take steps to obtain a ~~satisfactory~~ satisfactory individual working with the NRO staff. You should, however, proceed with the initial phase of the program without waiting for the assignment of this individual.

26 Oct 1962 [redacted] (S) DDR informed DNRO that [redacted] of NRO ST aff had been chosen as project officer for the A-12 drone program to serve with Program B (OSA). 25X1

Approved For Release 2005/06/09 : CIA-RDP85B00803R000100160080-9

66-R-638 Chron -2
Approved For Release 2005/06/09 : CIA-RDP85B00803R000100160080-9

NRO - Organization

TS/

5 Oct 1962

25X1

Memo for DCI from DD/R, HSJr.

Subj: Meeting with Secretary McNamara, DCI, Deo Secty Gilpatric, and DNRO Relative to NRO

1. NRO Organization

Mr. McCone presented his paper relative to revision of the NRO organization to eliminate the present dual reporting feature for the DNRO and the establishment of the Secretary of Defense as Executive Agent to the National Reconnaissance Planning Group. In commenting on the proposal Secretary McNamara stated that he had always had reservations on the requirement for a special organization for reconnaissance and did not understand why in the long run this could not be handled by normal intelligence organizational procedures. He went on to state that he would like to look to one organization in the Defense Department for all intelligence matters and felt that perhaps NSA and NRO should be subordinate to DIA. Mr. McCone indicated that he felt that both NSA and NRO activities transcended strictly military intelligence and that it would be undesirable to have this subordination. He also pointed out the present difficulties which DIA was having in getting itself to be a truly functional organization.

Dr. Charyk and I emphasized the desirability of maintaining a NRO operating at the present level in order to permit better centralized direction of the programs of the various agencies and to permit streamlined management of the projects so that research and operations could occur simultaneously.

Approved For Release 2005/06/09 : CIA-RDP85B00803R000100160080-9

Approved For Release 2005/06/09 : CIA-RDP85B00803R000100160080-9

Secretary McNamara indicated that while he was satisfied for the present with the existing NRO organization, he would review Mr. McCone's paper and discuss it with him at a later date.

NRO Budget Procedures:

Mr. McCone stated his views which were outlined in the revised NRO organization paper. He indicated the desire to have a single NRO program and budget which would be presented to the Bureau of the Budget with an indication of the portions for which CIA, AF, Navy, etc. should have the responsibility. CIA then would defend its portion through its normal procedures with Congress and money appropriated to it in the same fashion as the remainder of the CIA budget. 25X1

Secretary McNamara stated that the only question was the preservation of the integrity of the NRO funds and program. He felt it was essential that none of the agencies could transfer funds which had been designated and defended for NRO purposes to other non-NRO projects. Mr. McCone concurred in this and indicated that any such transfers would have to be approved by the Secretary of Defense and the DCI. (Following the meeting I got the impression that Dr. Charyk is still hedging on this subject and wishes to establish internal NRO budgetary controls over the program. However, I am hopeful that this can be worked out without further reference to you or Secretary McNamara. The latter's comments to DCI on his paper should be indicative in this respect.).....

Approved For Release 2005/06/09 : CIA-RDP85B00803R000100160080-9

Approved For Release 2005/06/09 : CIA-RDP85B00803R000100160080-9

FMSAC Beginnings (MISTIC) 5 October 1962

Dr. Wheelon in discussion with Exec Dir L. B. Kirkpatrick on 3 October 1962, in particular with relation to where OSI should be located within the Agency, said that he felt at that time OSI should more logically remain under the DD/I; however, if the DD/R (later DD/S&T) should get [redacted] then OSI would more logically come under the DD/R. He said he had mentioned to Dr. Scoville his feeling that both of these organizations should be DD/R responsibilities, but that he had not been able to stimulate much interest on Scoville's part.

25X1

Approved For Release 2005/06/09 : CIA-RDP85B00803R000100160080-9